

# Grace Lutheran Church

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Pastor Ken Scheck II  
Ms. Cindy Olson, Minister of Music  
April 7, 2019  
Fifth Sunday in Lent

## Wholehearted Love

The one magnificent thing Mary could wholeheartedly do for Jesus was to love him. Most stunning in the memory of that dinner in Bethany, the line lingering after all the details fade, is this gorgeous passage: “The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume” (John 12:3). Such beauty! What Mary gave in those astonishing moments was what she had discovered at Jesus’ feet.

For Mary had been at his feet before; she sat there at another time in that house, indifferent to aromas of cooking and cleaning, but rather listening, attending to his word. We can easily imagine what she heard from Jesus, words other disciples and the merely curious alike heard: stories of mercy and hope, parables of thieves, tales of servants and masters, the directions of love. And at still another time she knelt at Jesus’ feet, weeping beside a stone gateway to death, stench rising from her dead brother’s body. Daring to have faith in the one who called, Mary ran to Jesus and, out of the wrinkles of scolding despair, heard him: “Lazarus, come out!”

The sweet, extravagant odor of love was in every room as Mary anointed Jesus’ feet, the scent ascending the way psalmists’ prayers rose as incense before God.

Such love has no choice: it spends itself without caution, is not reduced to affordable charity, deliberately disregards prudence. It strains limits of convention and introduces itself with utter humility. It kneels.

Such love is not easily accepted: At home Martha was indignant at Mary. At the tomb, onlookers’ irritation ripened into execution schemes. At a Bethany dinner, Judas had little tolerance for wasteful devotion to a failed and foolhardy cause or its disappointing savior.

Following Mary’s example, we are called to kneel at the feet of Jesus, at the feet of one another. Jesus, too, assumes the posture of Mary at the feet of the disciples, welcoming them—and us—into the way of wholehearted love. May the house be filled with its fragrance.

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### BEFORE WORSHIP

Please fill out our Participation Card and place it in the offering plate every Sunday. This card helps the ministry of both the Congregational Care and Community Outreach Committees. Sometimes there are additional questions on the back of the card, so don’t forget to check both sides of the card.

## Fifth Sunday in Lent

April 7, 2019

*Lent is a season of contrition and renewal. The color purple has become a symbol of penitence. The music of the season reflects our need for repentance and renewal, which is our effort to turn, again, towards God.*

*Holy Silence is observed as we enter to worship.*

### Pre- Service Music

#### Welcome/Worship Instructions

*Arise in body or spirit and face the baptismal font*

#### Confession and Forgiveness

☞ Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who gathers us in the wilderness to redeem us, anoint us, and make us new.

**Amen**

☞ In these forty days, let us be honest, confess our sin, and receive God's promise of mercy.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

☞ God at the margins,

☞ **We have wandered far from your home; again and again, we lose our way. We turn inward, afraid of the world around us. We forget that you have saved your people before and promise to do so again. Do not remember the deeds of our past, but turn our faces toward the future, where your forgiveness is sure, your welcome is clear, and your love overflows. Amen**

☞ Like a hen who gathers her chicks, God embraces you in tender care. Like manna in the desert, God feeds you with surprising mercy. Like a loving parent, God runs to meet you again this day, forgiving your sins for the sake of ☩ Christ, leading you from death into life. **Amen**

#### Gathering Hymn

*Be Thou My Vision*

ELW 793 (red book)

#### Greeting

☞ Behold, now is the acceptable time;

☞ **now is the day of salvation.**

☞ The grace and mercy of God, who in Christ bears our burdens and saves us from sin through the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

☞ **And also with you.**

Leader



*Očte nebeský, Svoritel' u sveta, Bo - že, zmi - luj sa nad na - mi.*  
 1 O God, Father in heav - en, have mer - cy up - on us.  
 2 O Son of God, redeemer of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.  
 3 O God, Holy Spir - it, have mer - cy up - on us.

All



*Vie - me to, Pa - ne Bo - že náš, že sa na*  
 Your heart, O God, is grieved, we know, by ev - 'ry  
 Your arms ex - tend, O Christ, to save from sting of  
 O lav - ish Giv - er, come to aid the chil - dren



*nás hrieš - nych hne - váš, sved - či o tom smrt'*  
 e - vil, ev - 'ry woe; up - on your cross - for -  
 death and grasp of grave; your scars be - fore the  
 that your word has made. Now make us grow and



*ne - vin - ná Tvoj - ho je - di - né - ho Sy - na.*  
 sak - en Son our death is laid, and peace is won.  
 Fa - ther move his heart to mer - cy at such love.  
 help us pray; bring joy and com - fort, come to stay.

### Prayer of the Day

- A** Let us pray ...Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert.
- G** Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Sit

## First Reading

Isaiah 43:16-21

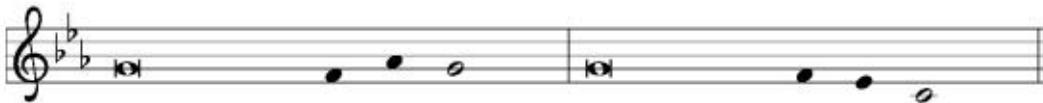
*The prophet declares that long ago the Lord performed mighty deeds and delivered Israel from Egyptian bondage through the waters of the sea. Now, the Lord is about to do a new thing, bringing the exiles out of Babylon and through the wilderness in a new exodus.*

### ☐ A reading from **Isaiah**:

<sup>16</sup>Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, <sup>17</sup>who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: <sup>18</sup>Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. <sup>19</sup>I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. <sup>20</sup>The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, <sup>21</sup>the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

### ☐ The word of the Lord.

### ☑ Thanks be to God.



## Psalm 126

<sup>1</sup>When the LORD restored the for- | tunes of Zion,  
then were we like | those who dream.

<sup>2</sup>**Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with | shouts of joy.**

**Then they said among the nations, “The LORD has done great | things for them.”**

<sup>3</sup>The LORD has done great | things for us,  
and we are | glad indeed.

<sup>4</sup>**Restore our for- | tunes, O LORD,  
like the watercourses | of the Negeb. ☐**

<sup>5</sup>Those who | sowed with tears  
will reap with | songs of joy.

<sup>6</sup>**Those who go out weeping, carry- | ing the seed,  
will come again with joy, shoulder- | ing their sheaves. ☐**

## Second Reading

## Philippians 3:4b-14

*Writing to Christians in Philippi, Paul admits that his heritage and reputation could give him more reason than most people to place confidence in his spiritual pedigree. But the overwhelming grace of God in Jesus calls Paul to a new set of values.*

☐ A reading from **Philippians**:

[Paul writes:] <sup>4b</sup>If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: <sup>5</sup>circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6a</sup>as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

<sup>7</sup>Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. <sup>8</sup>More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup>and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. <sup>10</sup>I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup>if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

<sup>12</sup>Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. <sup>13</sup>Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup>I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

☐ The word of the Lord.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

*Arise in body or spirit*

## Gospel Acclamation

## *Speak, O Lord*

1 Speak, O Lord, as we come to you to re-ceive the food  
2 Teach us, Lord, full o-be-di-ence, ho-ly rev-er-ence,  
3 Speak, O Lord, and re-new our minds; help us grasp the heights  
of your ho-ly Word. Take your truth, plant it  
true hu-mil-i-ty. Test our thoughts and our  
of your plans for us. Truths un-changed from the  
deep in us; shape and fash-ion us in your like-ness—  
at-ti-tudes in the ra-di-ance of your pur-i-ty.  
dawn of time that will ech-o down through e-ter-ni-ty.

that the light of Christ might be seen to-day in our  
Cause our faith to rise; cause our eyes to see your ma -  
And by grace we'll stand on your prom - is - es, and by

acts of love and our deeds of faith. Speak, O Lord, and ful-  
jes - tic love and au - thor - i - ty. Words of power that can  
faith we'll walk as you walk with us. Speak, O Lord, till your

fill in us all your pur - pos - es for your  
nev - er fail; let their truth pre - vail o - ver  
church is built, and the earth is filled with your

glo - ry.  
un - be - lief.  
glo - ry.

## Gospel Reading

**John 12:1-8**

*Judas willfully misinterprets as waste Mary's extravagant act of anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume. Jesus recognizes that her lavish gift is both an expression of love and an anticipation of his burial.*

☞ The Holy Gospel, according to **John**.

☞ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. <sup>2</sup>There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. <sup>3</sup>Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. <sup>4</sup>But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, <sup>5</sup>"Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" <sup>6</sup>(He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) <sup>7</sup>Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. <sup>8</sup>You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

☞ The Gospel of the Lord.

☞ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Sit*

## Children's Time

All children [including infants] and youth who desire to come forward for the children's sermon are welcomed and encouraged to do so. Parents/caregivers are welcome to accompany their child during the children's message. There may be a time of dance and celebration that is offered.

## Message

*Silence for reflection*

*Arise in body or spirit*

## Song of the Day

*Seed that on Earth is Dying*

ELW 330

*Kneel or sit as able.*

## Prayers

▲ Seeking the grace, mercy, and love of almighty God, we offer our prayers for the church, for people in need, and for all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

▲ God of resurrection and new life, inspire your church to reconsider what makes us holy. When we focus on our own piety or others' sin, show us Christ's faithfulness. Empower our leaders, including *Bishops Elizabeth and Craig, Assistants Chrysanne, David and Roseanne; our synod companion churches St. Thomas Lutheran Church of Cheboygan, Church of the Nazarene in Hastings; Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Ken.*

▲ Lord in your mercy,

☪ **(sung) Oh, Draw Me, Lord (x3) And I'll run after You.**

▲ Wherever destruction by flood, famine, or fire has devastated land and lives, cause green shoots to spring up, giving hope and vision for your promised future.

▲ Lord in your mercy,

☪ **(sung) Oh, Draw Me, Lord (x3) And I'll run after You.**

▲ Where nations are embroiled in chaos and unrest, cut a clear path for your people to follow. Lead us in ways of reconciliation and foretell the new things you prepare. Protect the lives of those who serve in the military, including: *Zack Green (Mikolajczyk), Parker Stancil (Freedlunds), Cody and Myrina Crawford (Clements), Alexis and Dylan Kelmer, Austin and Aaron Endsley (Burdicks), Brady Rudesill (Hansen), Joel Taggart (Varkulas), and Kayla and Lance Champaco (Pohls).*

▲ Lord in your mercy,

☪ **(sung) Oh, Draw Me, Lord (x3) And I'll run after You.**

**A** Wipe away the tears of those who weep under the burdens of hard labor and despair. Restore them, and bring them into the joy of your presence. Comfort those in need, *including Buck, Gary Edwards, Delmer Hansen, Mary Jane Hayner, LaHeige family, Betty Lydy, Elsie Merrow, Gale Morway, Mary Rider, and Barb Swift.*

**A** Lord in your mercy,

**C** *(sung)* **Oh, Draw Me, Lord (x3) And I'll run after You.**

**A** Permeate this world with the sweet perfume of Christ's anointing. Fill your people with such gratitude that it spills over into service of those who are poor or in any need.

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

**A** Lord in your mercy,

**C** *(sung)* **Oh, Draw Me, Lord (x3) And I'll run after You.**

**A** Accompany those for whom death draws near. Bring us with all your saints to receive the abundance of heavenly glory through the covenant Christ sealed in his death and resurrection.

**A** Lord in your mercy,

**C** *(sung)* **Oh, Draw Me, Lord (x3) And I'll run after You.**

**P** Reveal your will as you receive our prayers, and conform our ways to your ways; through the saving work of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

*Sit*

### **Offering of Gifts and Music**

*Everyone at worship is encouraged to fill out a Participation card and place it in the offering plate every Sunday morning*

*Arise in body or spirit*

## *Create in Me a Clean Heart*

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir-it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres-ence, and  
take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store un-to me the  
joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Create in Me a Clean Heart". It consists of four staves of music in G minor (one flat) and 4/4 time. The melody is written on a treble clef staff. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The music is a simple, hymn-like setting with a steady rhythm.

### **Offering Prayer**

- A** Let us pray . . . Generous God, you feed us with the harvest of the land, and you provide for our every need.
- C** **Receive our gifts of money, imagination, and labor, and transform them into a feast that welcomes all, in Jesus Christ, our host and our guest. Amen**

### **Sharing the Peace of God**

- P** The peace of Christ be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**

*(We share the peace of Christ with one another.)*

## Great Thanksgiving

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** It is right to give our thanks and praise

**P** It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



## Eucharistic Prayer

☐ Holy God, our living Water and our merciful Guide

☑ **Together with rivers and seas, wells and springs we bless and magnify you.**

☐ You led your people Israel through the desert and provided them water from the rock.

☑ **We praise you for Christ, our Rock and our Water, who joined us in our desert, pouring out his life for the world.**

☐ In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his life, death, and resurrection,

☑ **we await your salvation for all this thirsty world.**

☐ Pour out your Spirit on this holy food and on all the baptized gathered for this feast:

☑ **wash away our sin, that we may be revived for our journey by the love of Christ.**

☐ Through Christ all glory and honor is yours, Almighty God, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

☑ **Amen**

## Lord's Prayer

☐ Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

☑ **Our Father in heaven, holy be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

## Invitation to Communion

☐ All who are hungry, come and eat the bread of life. All who are thirsty, come and drink the cup of salvation.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

*Sit*

### Communion at Grace

All who are present are invited to receive Holy Communion. This sacrament is a gift to all who come with open hands and open hearts to the presence of Jesus.

✠ Bread is served by the Pastor. Wine is served from a *common cup* by the Assisting Minister.

✠ If you need gluten free bread, please let the Pastor know when you come forward.

✠ If you prefer wine from the *pouring chalice* in an **individual cup**, take an empty cup from the tray and have it filled by the Worship Assistant. Return the individual chalice/cup to the basket provided.

✠ Grape Juice is provided in the pre-filled cups in the center of the serving tray.

✠ A Verbal Blessing may be given by the Pastor, if you do not wish to commune.

✠ If you wish communion brought to you in the pew, please notify the usher.



1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have  
2 Your gift of love we cru - ci - fied. We laughed and  
3 I was so lost, I should have died, but you have



sent him from your side to walk up - on this guilt - y  
scorned him as he died. The hum - ble king we named a  
brought me to your side to be led by your staff and



sod and to be - come the Lamb of God. O Lamb of  
fraud and sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God. O Lamb of  
rod and to be called a lamb of God.



God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God. Oh, wash me



in your pre - cious blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

*I Am the Bread of Life*  
*Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross*  
*Now Behold the Lamb*

ELW 485  
ELW 335  
ELW 341

### **Sending of Communion Minister**

- Ⓐ Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are *homebound*. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- ☒ **Amen.**

### **Prayer after Communion**

- Ⓐ Tender and merciful one, at your feast, you fed us who brought nothing, turning our emptiness into joy.
- ☒ **Filled with your abundant grace, send us now to be ministers of reconciliation, mending broken hearts, working for justice, and striving for peace among all people, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

### **Congregational Mission Minutes**

*Arise in body or spirit*

#### **Blessing**

- Ⓐ God, who fills the creation with abundance, Christ, who spreads his arms in forgiveness, Holy Spirit, who draws ever near to us, ✚ bless you and bring you to life everlasting.
- ☒ **Amen.**

*All children and youth, as well as the young at heart and playful spirits, are invited to come forward to make music and dance during the Sending Hymn. Please choose one instrument to play or one scarf to use for waving and dancing.*

### **Sending Song**

*Lead On, O King Eternal*

ELW 805

### **Dismissal**

- Ⓐ Reconciled to God through Christ, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
- ☒ **Thanks be to God.**

### Week at a Glance

<b>Sunday, April 7</b>	Worship Services at 8 am & 10:45 am New Member Class 9:30 am Youth Group 6 pm
<b>Monday, April 8</b>	Outreach Committee 4:30 pm
<b>Tuesday, April 9</b>	Women of Faith 1:30 pm / Mallard Pond Brothers of Grace 7 pm
<b>Wednesday, April 10</b>	Wednesday Lenten Dinner – 6 pm Worship Service – 7 pm
<b>Thursday, April 11</b>	Choir practice at 7:15 pm

### Today's Worship Leaders

	8:00 am	10:45 am
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Anna Scheck	Traci Wales
<b>Cantor</b>	Mark Anton	Vickey Argo
<b>Lector</b>	Barry Wood	Kristi Winick
<b>Communion Server</b>	Jan Schreiner	Diane Neeb
<b>Acolyte/Crucifer</b>	Mark Anton	Mark Anton
<b>Usher</b>	John Burdick and Kay Marsh	Doug and Diane Neeb
<b>Greeter/Coffee Hr.</b>	Tom and Cheryl Drumm	Eve Wright and Jeanette Markwart
<b>Children's Church</b>	~	Kate Watson
<b>Table Guild</b>	Laura Scheck	
<b>Bread Maker</b>	Deborah Wilke	

### Next Sunday's Worship Leaders, April 14, 2019

	8:00 am	10:45 am
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Emma Peck	Mark Anton
<b>Cantor</b>	Jack Vos	Kate Watson
<b>Lector</b>	Hope Peck	Linda Melcher
<b>Communion Server</b>	Volunteer	Phyllis Lietz
<b>Acolyte/Crucifer</b>	Mark Anton	Lexi Watson
<b>Usher</b>	Tom and Cheryl Drumm	Joe Longcor and Gwen Hansen
<b>Greeter/Coffee Hr.</b>	Jack and Carol Vos	Doug and Diane Neeb
<b>Children's Church</b>	~	Laura Scheck
<b>Table Guild</b>	Laura Scheck	
<b>Bread Maker</b>	Jeanette Markwart	

## Stewardship Information

Worshippers last week: 74 Weekly Giving: \$3,594.00 Budget Amount: \$4,576.53

**New Member Class** continues today. This will be the final class to attend during the hour between services. Next week we will have Adult Forum with Assistant to the Bishop, Pastor David Sprang.

**Barry County Flute Choir** will be sharing music at the Lenten service this Wednesday beginning at 6:50 pm.

**Easter Plant Payment by April 18<sup>th</sup>!** Submit payment in envelope marked "Easter Plants" to office – make checks payable to Grace Lutheran Church with memo EASTER PLANTS.

**Easter Candy Donations.** Please bring candy that is prewrapped, which fits in plastic eggs. Thank you for your partnership in bringing some fun to our young people.

**Family Promise of Barry County** has announced the Grand Opening of it's **Day Center** on Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup> located at 2020 S. M-37 Hwy in Hastings. Questions? Call 269.953.6189.

**Choir** will meet Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:15 pm for practice.

**Noisy Offering** will be taken up next Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup> during both services.

**Wednesday Lenten dinner and service** will be held on April 10<sup>th</sup> – dinner at 6 pm and worship service at 7 pm. The Signs of Lent theme for this Wednesday is *Crossroad*. If you cannot join us in the evening, please come to Hope United Methodist Church at 12 noon.

**Earth Day Clean Up:** April 22<sup>nd</sup> from 12 noon to evening in our back lot. Come whenever you can during this time frame to help!

**Social Activities:** Please "save the date" for a *Progressive Dinner* on Saturday, May 18th; more information to follow in upcoming bulletins.

**Mutual Ministry:** If there is a ministry concern, please contact Cindy Olson. Cindy is our member of the Mutual Ministry Committee that is highlighted this week and can be reached by a phone call or a text message at 517.242.3725.

**Nursery Attendant.** Grace Lutheran Church is looking for a caregiver for preschool children during worship times here at Grace. If you have someone in mind that might be interested in the position, please give their name to Youth and Family committee chair, Jana Bishop.